

We claim:

1. A security system reader comprising:
 - a transceiver that transmits a stimulus signal
 - 5 and that receives a signal containing an authentication code; and,
 - a processor that determines whether the received authentication code is from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob, and that performs an authentication
 - 10 of the authentication code dependent upon whether the authentication code is from the badge or from the fingerprint keybob.
2. The security system reader of claim 1
15 wherein the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the processor is arranged to perform an authentication of the authentication code based upon both the fingerprint signature and the
20 identifier in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob.

3. The security system reader of claim 2
wherein the identifier in the authentication code from
the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

5 4. The security system reader of claim 2
wherein the fingerprint signature comprises a digitized
fingerprint signature.

5. The security system reader of claim 2
10 wherein the processor compares the fingerprint signature
to fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint
signatures and also compares the identifier in the
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to an
identifier maintained by the processor.

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6. The security system reader of claim 5
wherein the identifier in the authentication code from
the fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier,
and wherein the processor compares the rolling identifier
20 in the authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to
a rolling identifier maintained by the processor.

7. A method of providing access comprising:
receiving a signal containing an authentication
code;
determining whether the authentication code is
5 from a badge or a fingerprint keyfob;
determining whether the authentication code is
authentic dependent upon whether the authentication code
is from the badge or from the fingerprint keybob; and,
if the authentication code is authentic,
10 permitting access.

8. The method of claim 7 wherein the
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob comprises
a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein
15 the determining of whether the authentication code is
authentic comprises determining whether both the
fingerprint signature and the identifier in the
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob are
authentic.

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9. The method of claim 8 wherein the
identifier in the authentication code from the
fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the
fingerprint signature comprises a digitized fingerprint
signature.

5 11. The method of claim 8 wherein the
determining of whether the authentication code is
authentic comprises:

comparing the fingerprint signature to
fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint
10 signatures; and,

comparing the identifier in the authentication
code from the fingerprint keyfob to a separately
maintained identifier.

15 12. The method of claim 11 wherein the
identifier in the authentication code from the
fingerprint keyfob comprises a rolling identifier, and
wherein the comparing of the identifier in the
authentication code from the fingerprint keyfob to a
20 separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the
rolling identifier in the authentication code from the
fingerprint keyfob to a separately generated rolling
identifier.

13. The method of claim 7 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.

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14. A method of providing access comprising:
receiving a signal containing an authentication code;
determining whether the authentication code is
10 from a badge or a keyfob;
determining whether the authentication code is authentic; and,
if the authentication code is authentic,
permitting access.

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15. The method of claim 14 further comprising transmitting a stimulus signal that causes at least one of the badge and the keyfob to transmit the signal containing the authentication code.

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16. The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises first and second portions, wherein the first and second portions are different types of codes, and wherein the determining

of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises determining whether both the first and second portions are authentic.

5 17. The method of claim 16 wherein the first portion comprises a rolling identifier.

10 18. The method of claim 16 wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is authentic comprises:

 comparing the first portion to a list; and,
 comparing the second portion to a separately maintained code.

15 19. The method of claim 18 wherein the second portion comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing of the second portion to a separately maintained code comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.

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 20. The method of claim 14 wherein the authentication code from the keyfob comprises a fingerprint signature and an identifier, and wherein the determining of whether the authentication code is

authentic comprises determining whether both the fingerprint signature and the identifier are authentic.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the
5 identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob
comprises a rolling identifier.

22. The method of claim 20 wherein the
fingerprint signature comprises a digitized the
10 fingerprint signature.

23. The method of claim 20 wherein the
determining of whether the authentication code is
authentic comprises:

15 comparing the fingerprint signature to
fingerprint signatures in a list of fingerprint
signatures; and,

comparing the identifier in the authentication
code from the keyfob to a separately maintained
20 identifier.

24. The method of claim 23 wherein the
identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob
comprises a rolling identifier, and wherein the comparing

of the identifier in the authentication code from the keyfob to a separately maintained identifier comprises comparing the rolling identifier to a separately generated rolling identifier.